2014 SESSION

14104616D

SENATE BILL NO. 482

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice

on January 29, 2014)

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(Patrons Prior to Substitute—Senators Norment and Garrett [SB 190]) A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 18.2-270, 18.2-270.1, 18.2-271.1, 46.2-391.01, and 46.2-391.2 of the

Code of Virginia, relating to driving while intoxicated. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

8 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:
9 1. That §§ 18.2-270, 18.2-270.1, 18.2-271.1, 46.2-391.01, and 46.2-391.2 of the Code of Virginia are
10 amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-270. Penalty for driving while intoxicated; subsequent offense; prior conviction.

A. Except as otherwise provided herein, any person violating any provision of § 18.2-266 shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor with a mandatory minimum fine of \$250. If the person's blood alcohol level as indicated by the chemical test administered as provided in this article or by any other scientifically reliable chemical test performed on whole blood under circumstances reliably establishing the identity of the person who is the source of the blood and the accuracy of the results (i) was at least 0.15, but not more than 0.20, he shall be confined in jail for an additional mandatory minimum period of five days or, (ii) if the level was more than 0.20, for an additional mandatory minimum period of 10 days.

B. 1. Any person convicted of a second offense committed within less than five years after a prior offense under § 18.2-266 shall upon conviction of the second offense be punished by a mandatory minimum fine of \$500 and by confinement in jail for not less than one month nor more than one year.
Twenty days of such confinement shall be a mandatory minimum sentence.

24 2. Any person convicted of a second offense committed within a period of five to 10 years of a prior offense under § 18.2-266 shall upon conviction of the second offense be punished by a mandatory minimum fine of \$500 and by confinement in jail for not less than one month. Ten days of such confinement shall be a mandatory minimum sentence.

3. Upon conviction of a second offense within 10 years of a prior offense, if the person's blood alcohol level as indicated by the chemical test administered as provided in this article or by any other scientifically reliable chemical test performed on whole blood under circumstances reliably establishing the identity of the person who is the source of the blood and the accuracy of the results (i) was at least 0.15, but not more than 0.20, he shall be confined in jail for an additional mandatory minimum period of 10 days or, (ii) if the level was more than 0.20, for an additional mandatory minimum period of 20 days. In addition, such person shall be fined a mandatory minimum fine of \$500.

C. 1. Any person convicted of three offenses of § 18.2-266 committed within a 10-year period shall upon conviction of the third offense be guilty of a Class 6 felony. The sentence of any person convicted of three offenses of § 18.2-266 committed within a 10-year period shall include a mandatory minimum sentence of 90 days, unless the three offenses were committed within a five-year period, in which case the sentence shall include a mandatory minimum sentence of confinement for six months. In addition, such person shall be fined a mandatory minimum fine of \$1,000.

2. A person who has been convicted of § 18.2-36.1, 18.2-36.2, 18.2-51.4, 18.2-51.5, or a felony violation of § 18.2-266 shall upon conviction of a subsequent violation of § 18.2-266 be guilty of a Class 6 felony. The punishment of any person convicted of such a subsequent violation of § 18.2-266 shall include a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of one year and a mandatory minimum fine of \$1,000.

3. The punishment of any person convicted of a fourth or subsequent offense of § 18.2-266
committed within a 10-year period shall, upon conviction, include a mandatory minimum term of
imprisonment of one year. In addition, such person shall be fined a mandatory minimum fine of \$1,000.
Unless otherwise modified by the court, the defendant shall remain on probation and under the terms of
any suspended sentence for the same period as his operator's license was suspended, not to exceed three
years.

4. The vehicle solely owned and operated by the accused during the commission of a felony violation of § 18.2-266 shall be subject to seizure and forfeiture. After an arrest for a felony violation of § 18.2-266, the Commonwealth may file an information in accordance with § 19.2-386.34.

55 D. In addition to the penalty otherwise authorized by this section or § 16.1-278.9, any person 56 convicted of a violation of § 18.2-266 committed while transporting a person 17 years of age or younger 57 shall be (i) fined an additional minimum of \$500 and not more than \$1,000 and (ii) sentenced to a 58 mandatory minimum period of confinement of five days.

59 E. For the purpose of determining the number of offenses committed by, and the punishment

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appropriate for, a person under this section, an adult conviction of any person, or finding of guilty in the
case of a juvenile, under the following shall be considered a conviction of § 18.2-266: (i) the provisions
of § 18.2-36.1 or the substantially similar laws of any other state or of the United States, (ii) the
provisions of §§ 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, former § 18.1-54 (formerly § 18-75), the ordinance of any county,
city or town in this Commonwealth or the laws of any other state or of the United States substantially
similar to the provisions of § 18.2-51.4, or § 18.2-266, or (iii) the provisions of subsection A of
§ 46.2-341.24 or the substantially similar laws of any other state or of the United States.

F. Mandatory minimum punishments imposed pursuant to this section shall be cumulative, and
mandatory minimum terms of confinement shall be served consecutively. However, in no case shall
punishment imposed hereunder exceed the applicable statutory maximum Class 1 misdemeanor term of
confinement or fine upon conviction of a first or second offense, or Class 6 felony term of confinement
or fine upon conviction of a third or subsequent offense.

72 § 18.2-270.1. Ignition interlock systems; penalty.

- 73 A. For purposes of this section and § 18.2-270.2:
- 74 "Commission" means the Commission on VASAP.
- 75 "Department" means the Department of Motor Vehicles.

"Ignition interlock system" means a device that (i) connects a motor vehicle ignition system to an analyzer that measures a driver's blood alcohol content; (ii) prevents a motor vehicle ignition from starting if a driver's blood alcohol content exceeds 0.02 percent; and (iii) is equipped with the ability to perform a rolling retest and to electronically log the blood alcohol content during ignition, attempted ignition and rolling retest.

81 "Rolling retest" means a test of the vehicle operator's blood alcohol content required at random
82 intervals during operation of the vehicle, which triggers the sounding of the horn and flashing of lights
83 if (i) the test indicates that the operator has a blood alcohol content which exceeds 0.02 percent or (ii)
84 the operator fails to take the test.

B. In addition to any penalty provided by law for a conviction under § 18.2-51.4 or 18.2-266 or a substantially similar ordinance of any county, city or town, any court of proper jurisdiction shall, as a 85 86 87 condition of a restricted license, prohibit an offender from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped 88 with a functioning, certified ignition interlock system for any period of time not to exceed the period of 89 license suspension and restriction, not less than six consecutive months without alcohol-related violations 90 of the interlock requirements. The court shall, for a conviction under § 18.2-51.4, a second or subsequent offense of § 18.2-266 or a substantially similar ordinance of any county, city or town, or as 91 92 a condition of license restoration pursuant to subsection C of § 18.2-271.1 or § 46.2-391, require that 93 such a system be installed on each motor vehicle, as defined in § 46.2-100, owned by or registered to the offender, in whole or in part, for such period of time. Such condition shall be in addition to any 94 95 purposes for which a restricted license may be issued pursuant to § 18.2-271.1. The court may order the 96 installation of an ignition interlock system to commence immediately upon conviction. A fee of \$20 to cover court and administrative costs related to the ignition interlock system shall be paid by any such 97 98 offender to the clerk of the court. The court shall require the offender to install an electronic log device 99 with the ignition interlock system on a vehicle designated by the court to measure the blood alcohol 100 content at each attempted ignition and random rolling retest during operation of the vehicle. The offender shall be enrolled in and supervised by an alcohol safety action program pursuant to 101 § 18.2-271.1 and to conditions established by regulation under § 18.2-270.2 by the Commission during 102 the period for which the court has ordered installation of the ignition interlock system. The offender 103 104 shall be further required to provide to such program, at least quarterly during the period of court ordered ignition interlock installation, a printout from such electronic log indicating the offender's blood alcohol 105 content during such ignitions, attempted ignitions, and rolling retests, and showing attempts to 106 107 circumvent or tamper with the equipment.

108 C. In any case in which the court requires the installation of an ignition interlock system, the court 109 shall order the offender not to operate any motor vehicle that is not equipped with such a system for the 110 period of time that the interlock restriction is in effect. The clerk of the court shall file with the 111 Department of Motor Vehicles a copy of the order, which shall become a part of the offender's 112 operator's license record maintained by the Department. The Department shall issue to the offender for 113 the period during which the interlock restriction is imposed a restricted license which shall appropriately 114 set forth the restrictions required by the court under this subsection and any other restrictions imposed 115 upon the offender's driving privilege, and shall also set forth any exception granted by the court under 116 subsection F.

D. The offender shall be ordered to provide the appropriate ASAP program, within 30 days of the effective date of the order of court, proof of the installation of the ignition interlock system. The Program shall require the offender to have the system monitored and calibrated for proper operation at least every 30 days by an entity approved by the Commission under the provisions of § 18.2-270.2 and to demonstrate proof thereof. The offender shall pay the cost of leasing or buying and monitoring and

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maintaining the ignition interlock system. Absent good cause shown, the court may revoke the offender's driving privilege for failing to (i) timely install such system or (ii) have the system properly monitored and calibrated.
E. No person shall start or attempt to start a motor vehicle equipped with an ignition interlock

126 system for the purpose of providing an operable motor vehicle to a person who is prohibited under this 127 section from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with an ignition interlock system. No person 128 shall tamper with, or in any way attempt to circumvent the operation of, an ignition interlock system 129 that has been installed in the motor vehicle of a person under this section. Except as authorized in 130 subsection G F, no person shall knowingly furnish a motor vehicle not equipped with a functioning 131 ignition interlock system to any person prohibited under subsection B from operating any motor vehicle 132 which is not equipped with such system. A violation of this subsection is punishable as a Class 1 133 misdemeanor.

F. Any person prohibited from operating a motor vehicle under subsection B may, solely in the course of his employment, operate a motor vehicle which is owned or provided by his employer without installation of an ignition interlock system, if the court expressly permits such operation as a condition of a restricted license at the request of the employer, but such person may not operate a school bus, school vehicle, or a commercial motor vehicle as defined in § 46.2-341.4. This subsection shall not apply if such employer is an entity wholly or partially owned or controlled by the person otherwise prohibited from operating a vehicle without an ignition interlock system.

141 G. The Commission shall promulgate such regulations and forms as are necessary to implement the 142 procedures outlined in this section.

143 § 18.2-271.1. Probation, education and rehabilitation of person charged or convicted; person 144 convicted under law of another state.

145 A. Any person convicted of a first or second offense of § 18.2-266 (i); (ii); or (iv), or any 146 ordinance of a county, city, or town similar to the provisions thereof, or provisions of subsection A of 147 § 46.2-341.24, shall be required by court order, as a condition of probation or otherwise, to enter into 148 and successfully complete an alcohol safety action program in the judicial district in which such charge 149 is brought or in any other judicial district upon such terms and conditions as the court may set forth. 150 However, upon motion of a person convicted of any such offense following an assessment of the person 151 conducted by an alcohol safety action program, the court, for good cause, may decline to order 152 participation in such a program if the assessment by the alcohol safety action program indicates that 153 intervention is not appropriate for such person. In no event shall such persons be permitted to enter any 154 such program which is not certified as meeting minimum standards and criteria established by the 155 Commission on the Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP) pursuant to subsection H of this 156 section and to § 18.2-271.2. However, any person charged with a violation of a first or second offense 157 of § 18.2-266 (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv), or any ordinance of a county, city, or town similar to the provisions thereof, or provisions of subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, may, at any time prior to trial, enter into an 158 159 alcohol safety action program in the judicial district in which such charge is brought or in any other 160 judicial district. Any person who enters into such program prior to trial may pre-qualify with the program to have an ignition interlock system installed on any motor vehicle owned or operated by him. 161 162 However, no ignition interlock company shall install an ignition interlock system on any such vehicle 163 until a court issues to the person a restricted license with the ignition interlock restriction.

164 B. The court shall require the person entering such program under the provisions of this section to 165 pay a fee of no less than \$250 but no more than \$300. A reasonable portion of such fee, as may be 166 determined by the Commission on VASAP, but not to exceed 10 percent, shall be forwarded monthly to be deposited with the State Treasurer for expenditure by the Commission on VASAP, and the balance 167 168 shall be held in a separate fund for local administration of driver alcohol rehabilitation programs. Upon 169 a positive finding that the defendant is indigent, the court may reduce or waive the fee. In addition to 170 the costs of the proceeding, fees as may reasonably be required of defendants referred for intervention 171 under any such program may be charged.

172 C. Upon conviction of a violation of § 18.2-266 or any ordinance of a county, city or town similar to 173 the provisions thereof, or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, the court shall impose the sentence authorized 174 by § 18.2-270 or 46.2-341.28 and the license revocation as authorized by § 18.2-271. In addition, if the 175 conviction was for a second offense committed within less than 10 years after a first such offense, the 176 court shall order that restoration of the person's license to drive be conditioned upon the installation of 177 an ignition interlock system on each motor vehicle, as defined in § 46.2-100, owned by or registered to 178 the person, in whole or in part, for a period of six months beginning at the end of the three year license 179 revocation, unless such a system has already been installed for six months prior to that time pursuant to 180 a restricted license order under subsection E of this section. Upon a finding that a person so convicted is required to participate in the program described herein, the court shall enter the conviction on the 181 182 warrant, and shall note that the person so convicted has been referred to such program. The court may

183 then proceed to issue an order in accordance with subsection E of this section, if the court finds that the 184 person so convicted is eligible for a restricted license. If the court finds good cause for a person not to 185 participate in such program or subsequently that such person has violated, without good cause, any of 186 the conditions set forth by the court in entering the program, the court shall dispose of the case as if no 187 program had been entered, in which event the revocation provisions of § 46.2-389 and subsection A of 188 § 46.2-391 shall be applicable to the conviction. The court shall, upon final disposition of the case, send 189 a copy of its order to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles. If such order provides for 190 the issuance of a restricted license, the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, upon receipt 191 thereof, shall issue a restricted license. Appeals from any such disposition shall be allowed as provided 192 by law. The time within which an appeal may be taken shall be calculated from the date of the final 193 disposition of the case or any motion for rehearing, whichever is later.

D. Any person who has been convicted in another state of the violation of a law of such state 194 195 substantially similar to the provisions of § 18.2-266 or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, and whose privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this Commonwealth is subject to revocation under the provisions 196 197 of § 46.2-389 and subsection A of § 46.2-391, may petition the general district court of the county or 198 city in which he resides that he be given probation and assigned to a program as provided in subsection 199 A of this section and that, upon entry into such program, he be issued an order in accordance with subsection E of this section. If the court finds that such person would have qualified therefor if he had 200 201 been convicted in this Commonwealth of a violation of § 18.2-266 or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24, the 202 court may grant the petition and may issue an order in accordance with subsection E of this section as 203 to the period of license suspension or revocation imposed pursuant to § 46.2-389 or subsection A of 204 § 46.2-391. Such order shall be conditioned upon the successful completion of a program by the 205 petitioner. If the court subsequently finds that such person has violated any of the conditions set forth by the court, the court shall dispose of the case as if no program had been entered and shall notify the 206 207 Commissioner, who shall revoke the person's license in accordance with the provisions of § 46.2-389 or 208 subsection A of § 46.2-391. A copy of the order granting the petition or subsequently revoking or 209 suspending such person's license to operate a motor vehicle shall be forthwith sent to the Commissioner 210 of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

211 No period of license suspension or revocation shall be imposed pursuant to this subsection which, 212 when considered together with any period of license suspension or revocation previously imposed for the 213 same offense in any state, results in such person's license being suspended for a period in excess of the 214 maximum periods specified in this subsection.

215 E. Except as otherwise provided herein, whenever a person enters a certified program pursuant to this 216 section, and such person's license to operate a motor vehicle, engine or train in the Commonwealth has 217 been suspended or revoked, the court may, in its discretion and for good cause shown, provide that such 218 person be issued a restricted permit to operate a motor vehicle for any of the following purposes: (i) 219 travel to and from his place of employment; (ii) travel to and from an alcohol rehabilitation or safety 220 action program; (iii) travel during the hours of such person's employment if the operation of a motor 221 vehicle is a necessary incident of such employment; (iv) travel to and from school if such person is a 222 student, upon proper written verification to the court that such person is enrolled in a continuing 223 program of education; (v) travel for health care services, including medically necessary transportation of 224 an elderly parent or, as designated by the court, any person residing in the person's household with a 225 serious medical problem upon written verification of need by a licensed health professional; (vi) travel 226 necessary to transport a minor child under the care of such person to and from school, day care, and 227 facilities housing medical service providers; (vii) travel to and from court-ordered visitation with a child 228 of such person; (viii) travel to a screening, evaluation and education program entered pursuant to 229 § 18.2-251 or subsection H of § 18.2-258.1; (ix) travel to and from court appearances in which he is a subpoenaed witness or a party and appointments with his probation officer and to and from any 230 programs required by the court or as a condition of probation; (x) travel to and from a place of religious 231 232 worship one day per week at a specified time and place; (xi) travel to and from appointments approved 233 by the Division of Child Support Enforcement of the Department of Social Services as a requirement of 234 participation in a court-ordered intensive case monitoring program for child support for which the 235 participant maintains written proof of the appointment, including written proof of the date and time of 236 the appointment, on his person; (xii) travel to and from jail to serve a sentence when such person has 237 been convicted and sentenced to confinement in jail and pursuant to § 53.1-131.1 the time to be served 238 is on weekends or nonconsecutive days; or (xiii) travel to and from the facility that installed or monitors 239 the ignition interlock in the person's vehicle. No restricted license issued pursuant to this subsection shall 240 permit any person to operate a commercial motor vehicle as defined in the Virginia Commercial Driver's 241 License Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.). The court shall order the surrender of such person's license to operate a motor vehicle to be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of § 46.2-398 and shall forward to 242 243 the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles a copy of its order entered pursuant to this 244 subsection, which shall specifically enumerate the restrictions imposed and contain such information

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245 regarding the person to whom such a permit is issued as is reasonably necessary to identify such person. 246 The court shall also provide a copy of its order to the person so convicted who may operate a motor 247 vehicle on the order until receipt from the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles of a 248 restricted license, if the order provides for a restricted license for that time period. A copy of such order 249 and, after receipt thereof, the restricted license shall be carried at all times while operating a motor 250 vehicle. Any person who operates a motor vehicle in violation of any restrictions imposed pursuant to 251 this section shall be guilty of a violation of § 18.2-272. Such restricted license shall be conditioned upon 252 enrollment within 15 days in, and successful completion of, a program as described in subsection A of 253 this section. No restricted license shall be issued during the first four months of a revocation imposed 254 pursuant to subsection B of § 18.2-271 or subsection A of § 46.2-391 for a second offense of the type 255 described therein committed within 10 years of a first such offense. No restricted license shall be issued 256 during the first year of a revocation imposed pursuant to subsection B of § 18.2-271 or subsection A of 257 § 46.2-391 for a second offense of the type described therein committed within five years of a first such 258 offense. No restricted license shall be issued during any revocation period imposed pursuant to 259 subsection C of § 18.2-271 or subsection B of § 46.2-391. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-411, 260 the fee charged pursuant to § 46.2-411 for reinstatement of the driver's license of any person whose 261 privilege or license has been suspended or revoked as a result of a violation of § 18.2-266, subsection A 262 of § 46.2-341.24 or of any ordinance of a county, city or town, or of any federal law or the laws of any 263 other state similar to the provisions of § 18.2-266 or subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 shall be \$105. Forty 264 dollars of such reinstatement fee shall be retained by the Department of Motor Vehicles as provided in 265 § 46.2-411, \$40 shall be transferred to the Commission on VASAP, and \$25 shall be transferred to the 266 Commonwealth Neurotrauma Initiative Trust Fund.

267 F. The court shall have jurisdiction over any person entering such program under any provision of 268 this section until such time as the case has been disposed of by either successful completion of the 269 program, or revocation due to ineligibility or violation of a condition or conditions imposed by the 270 court, whichever shall first occur. Revocation proceedings shall be commenced by notice to show cause 271 why the court should not revoke the privilege afforded by this section. Such notice shall be made by 272 first-class mail to the last known address of such person, and shall direct such person to appear before 273 the court in response thereto on a date contained in such notice, which shall not be less than 10 days 274 from the date of mailing of the notice. Failure to appear in response to such notice shall of itself be 275 grounds for revocation of such privilege. Notice of revocation under this subsection shall be sent 276 forthwith to the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

G. For the purposes of this section, any court which has convicted a person of a violation of 277 278 § 18.2-266, subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 or any ordinance of a county, city or town similar to the 279 provisions of § 18.2-266 shall have continuing jurisdiction over such person during any period of license 280 revocation related to that conviction, for the limited purposes of (i) referring such person to a certified 281 alcohol safety action program, (ii) providing for a restricted permit for such person in accordance with 282 the provisions of subsection E, and (iii) imposing terms, conditions and limitations for actions taken pursuant to clauses (i) and (ii), whether or not it took either such action at the time of the conviction. 283 284 This continuing jurisdiction is subject to the limitations of subsection E that provide that no restricted 285 license shall be issued during a revocation imposed pursuant to subsection C of § 18.2-271 or subsection 286 B of § 46.2-391 or during the first four months or first year, whichever is applicable, of the revocation 287 imposed pursuant to subsection B of § 18.2-271 or subsection A of § 46.2-391. The provisions of this 288 subsection shall apply to a person convicted of a violation of § 18.2-266, subsection A of § 46.2-341.24 289 or any ordinance of a county, city or town similar to the provisions of § 18.2-266 on, after and at any 290 time prior to July 1, 2003.

H. The State Treasurer, the Commission on VASAP or any city or county is authorized to accept any gifts or bequests of money or property, and any grant, loan, service, payment or property from any source, including the federal government, for the purpose of driver alcohol education. Any such gifts, bequests, grants, loans or payments shall be deposited in the separate fund provided in subsection B.

295 I. The Commission on VASAP, or any county, city, town, or any combination thereof may establish 296 and, if established, shall operate, in accordance with the standards and criteria required by this 297 subsection, alcohol safety action programs in connection with highway safety. Each such program shall 298 operate under the direction of a local independent policy board chosen in accordance with procedures 299 approved and promulgated by the Commission on VASAP. Local sitting or retired district court judges 300 who regularly hear or heard cases involving driving under the influence and are familiar with their local 301 alcohol safety action programs may serve on such boards. The Commission on VASAP shall establish minimum standards and criteria for the implementation and operation of such programs and shall 302 303 establish procedures to certify all such programs to ensure that they meet the minimum standards and 304 criteria stipulated by the Commission. The Commission shall also establish criteria for the administration 305 of such programs for public information activities, for accounting procedures, for the auditing

306 requirements of such programs and for the allocation of funds. Funds paid to the Commonwealth 307 hereunder shall be utilized in the discretion of the Commission on VASAP to offset the costs of state 308 programs and local programs run in conjunction with any county, city or town and costs incurred by the 309 Commission. The Commission shall submit an annual report as to actions taken at the close of each 310 calendar year to the Governor and the General Assembly.

311 J. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section or of § 18.2-271, nothing in this section shall 312 permit the court to suspend, reduce, limit, or otherwise modify any disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle imposed under the provisions of the Virginia Commercial Driver's License 313 314 Act (§ 46.2-341.1 et seq.). 315

§ 46.2-391.01. Administrative enforcement of ignition interlock requirements.

316 If the court, as a condition of license restoration or as a condition of a restricted license under subsection C of § 18.2-271.1 or § 46.2-391, or when required by § 18.2-270.1, fails to prohibit an 317 318 offender from operating a motor vehicle that is not equipped with a functioning, certified ignition interlock system upon the offender's conviction of a second or subsequent offense under § 18.2-51.4 or 319 320 § 18.2-266 or a substantially similar ordinance of any county, city or town, the Commissioner shall 321 enforce the requirements relating to installation of such systems in accordance with the provisions of 322 § 18.2-270.1. 323

§ 46.2-391.2. Administrative suspension of license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle.

324 A. If a breath test is taken pursuant to § 18.2-268.2 or any similar ordinance and (i) the results show 325 a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or more by weight by volume or 0.08 grams or more per 210 liters of breath, or (ii) the results, for persons under 21 years of age, show a blood alcohol concentration 326 327 of 0.02 percent or more by weight by volume or 0.02 grams or more per 210 liters of breath or (iii) the person refuses to submit to the breath or blood test in violation of § 18.2-268.3 or any similar 328 329 ordinance, and upon issuance of a petition or summons, or upon issuance of a warrant by the magistrate, 330 for a violation of § 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, or 18.2-266.1, or any similar ordinance, or upon the issuance of 331 a warrant or summons by the magistrate or by the arresting officer at a medical facility for a violation 332 of § 18.2-268.3, or any similar ordinance, the person's license shall be suspended immediately or in the 333 case of (i) an unlicensed person, (ii) a person whose license is otherwise suspended or revoked, or (iii) a 334 person whose driver's license is from a jurisdiction other than the Commonwealth, such person's 335 privilege to operate a motor vehicle in the Commonwealth shall be suspended immediately. The period 336 of suspension of the person's license or privilege to drive shall be seven days, unless the petition, 337 summons or warrant issued charges the person with a second or subsequent offense. If the person is 338 charged with a second offense the suspension shall be for 60 days. If not already expired, the period of 339 suspension shall expire on the day and time of trial of the offense charged on the petition, summons or 340 warrant, except that it shall not so expire during the first seven days of the suspension. If the person is 341 charged with a third or subsequent offense, the suspension shall be until the day and time of trial of the 342 offense charged on the petition, summons or warrant.

A law-enforcement officer, acting on behalf of the Commonwealth, shall serve a notice of suspension 343 344 personally on the arrested person. When notice is served, the arresting officer shall promptly take 345 possession of any driver's license held by the person and issued by the Commonwealth and shall promptly deliver it to the magistrate. Any driver's license taken into possession under this section shall 346 347 be forwarded promptly by the magistrate to the clerk of the general district court or, as appropriate, the 348 court with jurisdiction over juveniles of the jurisdiction in which the arrest was made together with any 349 petition, summons or warrant, the results of the breath test, if any, and the report required by subsection 350 B. A copy of the notice of suspension shall be forwarded forthwith to both (a) the general district court 351 or, as appropriate, the court with jurisdiction over juveniles of the jurisdiction in which the arrest was 352 made and (b) the Commissioner. Transmission of this information may be made by electronic means.

353 The clerk shall promptly return the suspended license to the person at the expiration of the 354 suspension. Whenever a suspended license is to be returned under this section or § 46.2-391.4, the 355 person may elect to have the license returned in person at the clerk's office or by mail to the address on 356 the person's license or to such other address as he may request.

357 **B**. Promptly after arrest and service of the notice of suspension, the arresting officer shall forward to 358 the magistrate a sworn report of the arrest that shall include (i) information which adequately identifies 359 the person arrested and (ii) a statement setting forth the arresting officer's grounds for belief that the 360 person violated § 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, or 18.2-266.1, or a similar ordinance or refused to submit to a breath or blood test in violation of § 18.2-268.3 or a similar ordinance. The report required by this 361 subsection shall be submitted on forms supplied by the Supreme Court. 362

363 C. Any person whose license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle has been suspended under 364 subsection A may, during the period of the suspension, request the general district court or, as appropriate, the court with jurisdiction over juveniles of the jurisdiction in which the arrest was made to 365 review that suspension. The court shall review the suspension within the same time period as the court 366 367 hears an appeal from an order denying bail or fixing terms of bail or terms of recognizance, giving this 368 matter precedence over all other matters on its docket. If the person proves to the court by a 369 preponderance of the evidence that the arresting officer did not have probable cause for the arrest, that 370 the magistrate did not have probable cause to issue the warrant, or that there was not probable cause for 371 issuance of the petition, the court shall rescind the suspension, or that portion of it that exceeds seven 372 days if there was not probable cause to charge a second offense or 60 days if there was not probable 373 cause to charge a third or subsequent offense, and the clerk of the court shall forthwith, or at the 374 expiration of the reduced suspension time, (i) return the suspended license, if any, to the person unless 375 the license has been otherwise suspended or revoked, (ii) deliver to the person a notice that the 376 suspension under § 46.2-391.2 has been rescinded or reduced, and (iii) forward to the Commissioner a 377 copy of the notice that the suspension under § 46.2-391.2 has been rescinded or reduced. Otherwise, the 378 court shall affirm the suspension. If the person requesting the review fails to appear without just cause, 379 his right to review shall be waived.

The court's findings are without prejudice to the person contesting the suspension or to any other
 potential party as to any proceedings, civil or criminal, and shall not be evidence in any proceedings,
 civil or criminal.

383 D. If a person whose license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle is suspended under subsection A
384 is convicted under § 18.2-36.1, 18.2-51.4, 18.2-266, or 18.2-266.1, or any similar ordinance during the
385 suspension imposed by subsection A, and if the court decides to issue the person a restricted permit
386 under subsection E of § 18.2-271.1, such restricted permit shall not be issued to the person before the
387 expiration of the first seven days of the suspension imposed under subsection A.